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To: Hospitals
Community Based Residential Facilities

HOSP 07
CBRF 05

From: Jan Eakins, Section Chief
Provider Regulation and Quality Improvement

Via: Otis Woods, Director
Bureau of Quality Assurance

**Statewide Variance of Chapters HFS 124 and HFS 83, Wisconsin Administrative Code,
Mantoux Tuberculin Skin Test
Effective Immediately**

The purpose of this statewide variance is to provide an alternative test for the identification of tuberculosis infection.

Background

The state rules governing the Mantoux Skin Test are found in Chapters HFS 124 and 83.

Chapter HFS 124 Hospitals

HFS 124.07(2)(c) states: A Mantoux tuberculin skin test consisting of 5 tuberculin units (TU) of purified protein derivative (PPD) and, if necessary, a chest roentgenogram to determine whether disease is present, unless medically contraindicated. Persons with positive findings shall be referred to a physician for evaluation.

Chapter HFS 83 Community Based Residential Facilities

HFS 83.33(2)(g)(1)(b) states: The screening for communicable disease shall include a tuberculin skin test using the Mantoux 5TU PPD test and a visual screening for other clinically apparent communicable diseases.

On May 2, 2005 The Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved the QuantiFERON - TB GOLD blood test as another method to screen for active tuberculosis (TB) or latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI). It is a whole blood test and does not require a return visit to determine results. On December 16, 2005, CDC published "Guidelines for Using the QuantiFERON®-TB Gold Test for Detecting *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Infection, United States" MMWR, Recommendations and Reports, 54(RR15);49-54 and it can be found at

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5415a4.htm>

Action

A statewide variance, from the two state rules listed above, is being granted to include QuantiFERON – TB GOLD as an alternative test for Tuberculosis.

The use of this variance must not jeopardize the health, safety or welfare of any patient or resident. The Department reserves the right to review, revise or revoke any and all variances at any time.

Please contact Gail Hansen at (608) 266-2966 or at hansege@dhfs.state.wi.us if you have any questions or need additional clarification.